fallen syndicate

PRESENTS

eighth

BY KAWACHI IZUMI

RAWS
KUMA-CHAN
TRANSLATING
CASTELLAN
PROOFREADING
RUKAYEX
CLEANING
ZACK
REDRAWING
ZACK
TYPESETTING
NEIRA_YEN
QUALITY CHECKING
NEIRA_YEN

HTTPS://FALLENSYNDICATE.WORDPRESS.COM/
IRC #FALLENSYNDICATE

THEN WHY NOT RECRUIT SOME MORE?
WE'RE TRYING BUT IT DOESN'T DO ANY GOOD WHEN NO ONE APPLIES
UH SIR? I'M SORRY, BUT WE'RE LOW ON STAFF.
DAMMIT! WHERE ARE THOSE NEW CHAPTERS?!
ARE YOU FREAKING SERIOUS?
MANGA
FIST SLAM
WELL UH, YES ACTUALLY

IT'S SUCH A PITY TOO WE HAVE SO MANY LOVELY PROJECTS THAT ARE JUST DYING FOR STAFF
Hug me
hold me
Love me♥
!
Want faster releases and more projects? Go to http://fallensyndicate.wordpress.com/join/ to find out more on how to help.
?
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
IT'S KIND OF CREEPING ME OUT
THIS GUY'S WEIRD STILL, MAYBE I SHOULD VOLUNTEER AND HELP SPEED UP THEIR RELEASES
STARE

This has been an advertisment by a random dude in a tie. We take no responsibility for any injury obtained by visiting our site. Please avoid the killer bunnies.

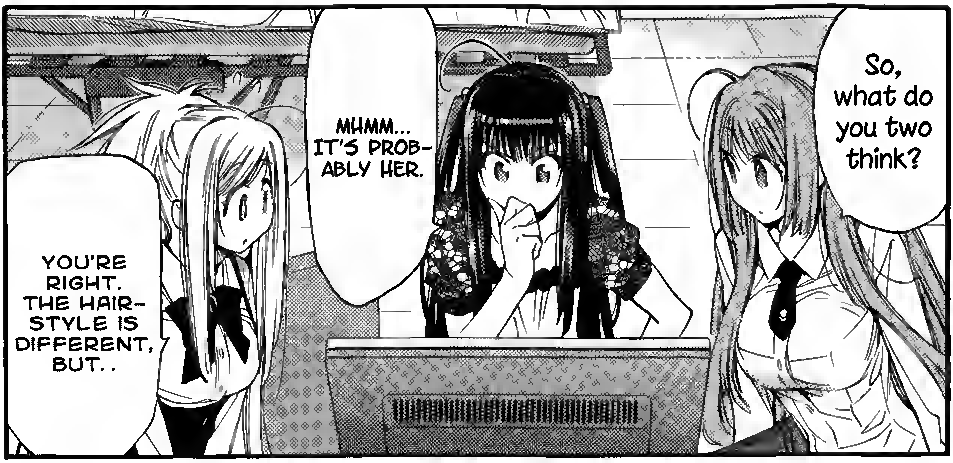
EH... WHAT?
YOU KNOW WHO IT IS?!
IT'S RIO.
RIO!
LOOK FOR THE CAMERA FOOTAGE RIGHT OUTSIDE RIO'S RESEARCH OFFICE!
FROM THE DAY RIO COLLAPSED AND WAS HOSPITAL-IZED.
ERM...
When?
Here, Naoya-kun, the register.
THANKS.
WHO ARE THE EMPLOY-EES WHO RECENTLY JOINED?

...I KNEW IT, SHE'S NOT HERE.
They should all be listed there.
THERE IS A NUMBER OF PEOPLE, ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS RIO-SENSEI...
Though I think someone would have noticed if the cameras picked up someone not on the list.
Actually, there was an alarm once for a suspicious person.
Hmm?
Wasn't that time a "test"?
It's highly probable there was more than one person.
Maybe they're pursuing just one person, and another was missed.

There.
!
...THAT'S "HER".
CD Drive
File Folder

Operation.38 EIGHTH TRIAL ④

オペレーション　エイス　トライアル


So, what do you two think?
MUMM... IT'S PROBABLY HER.
YOU'RE RIGHT. THE HAIRSTYLE IS DIFFERENT, BUT..

NO, NO! I SAID YOU CAN'T LOOK RIGHT NOW!
Eh...
You talked with her?
YEAH...

"THE CHIEF ASKED ME TO HAVE YOU BRING HIM RIO-SENSEI'S DEVELOPMENT DATA."
EIGHTH RESEARCH
SECURITY GUARD
.....
... DAMN.

Even though it was right out in the open,
Being so brazen about it...
...
Why?
Why would they go so far...
As to appear right in front of me?
?
It's as though ...
She didn't care about being found out.

.....
...WHERE HAVE I SEEN HER...
...
EH?
We consider her to have been an intruder at Eighth Research.
THE ONE WHO INVADED THE HOSPITAL IS HER.

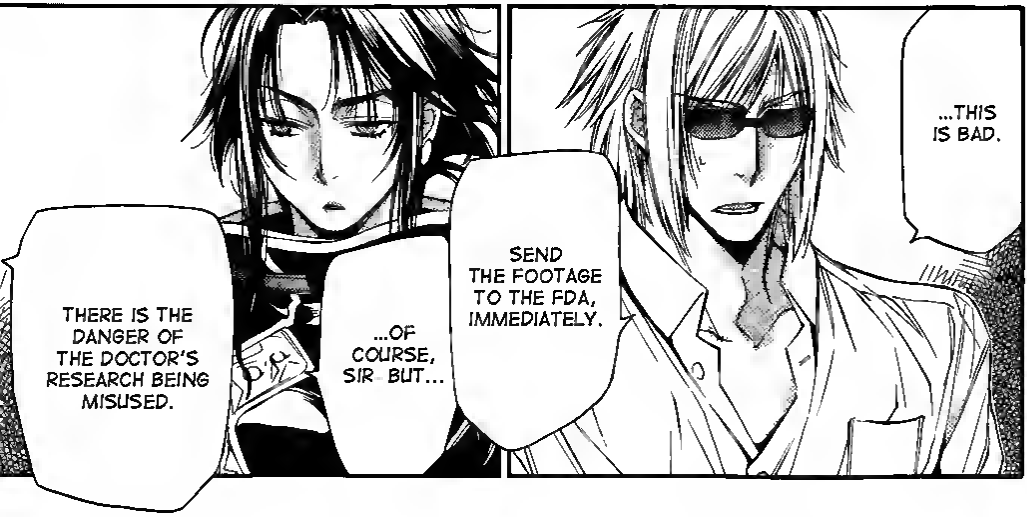
Mmm
WHERE WAS IT...?
UM,
WHEN THAT SUSPECT SAW HOW I FOUGHT, SHE ASKED "WHO TAUGHT YOU?"
?
I LEARNED HOW TO FIGHT FROM YOU, TEAM LEADER.
I THOUGHT IT WAS POSSIBLE SHE MIGHT BE SOMEONE YOU KNEW, BUT...
.....
THAT MUCH I DO KNOW.
!

SFX WHEW
GETTING FORGETFUL, THE RAVAGES OF TIME ARE HORRIBLE.
……
ONLY TOO WELL.
…WELL, FINE. REGARDLESS, NOW WE KNOW.
Just who is your boss?
No…
… Hey, was that a joke we should laugh at?
SFX WHISPER WHISPER
I SEE.
NEXT, WE'LL PERFORM A SEARCH.
I KNEW WE SHOULD'VE BEEFED UP SECURITY SOONER.
IS THIS THE ONLY TIME SHE'S ON FILM?
NO, WE HAVEN'T CONFIRMED THAT YET.
I THOUGHT IT BEST TO REPORT IT FIRST.

ガチャ。
!
YOU TWO ARE ON STANDBY FOR NOW.
BE READY TO SORTIE ANYTIME.
MIRA!
ハァ…!
!
CHIEF...
HEY.
I SEE.
I'VE GOTTEN SPECIAL PERMISSION FROM THE FDA.
YOU GUYS ARE HERE, TOO. GOOD.

IT'S BECOMING SERIOUS...
BUT THIS IS HARDLY A PLEASANT STORY.
REGARDLESS, RIO-SENSEI'S REPORT MUST BE RECOVERED, AND QUICKLY, IF YOU PLEASE.
THAT'S A GIVEN... HOWEVER,

WE JUST OBTAINED SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE OF THE SUSPECT.
!
DON'T TELL ME, YOU MEAN AT EIGHTH?!
YES.


...THIS IS BAD.
SEND THE FOOTAGE TO THE FDA, IMMEDIATELY.
...OF COURSE, SIR BUT...
THERE IS THE DANGER OF THE DOCTOR'S RESEARCH BEING MISUSED.

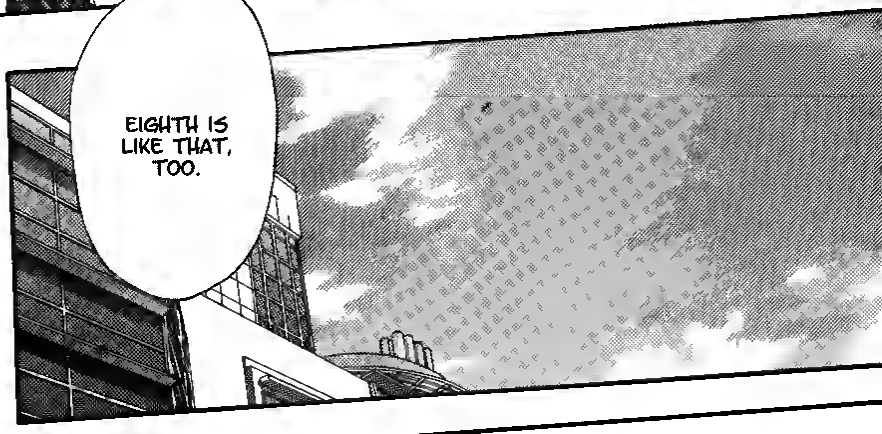
!?
MIS-USED?
NOT "MISAP-PROPRI-ATED"?
YEAH.
IF THAT HAPPENS, IT WON'T JUST BE EIGHTH'S PROBLEM.
WHEN YOU FIGURE OUT THE SUSPECT'S LOCATION, YOU GUYS WILL MOVE, IMMEDIATELY.
IF YOU NEED TO, COORDINATE WITH THE FDA AND OCI.

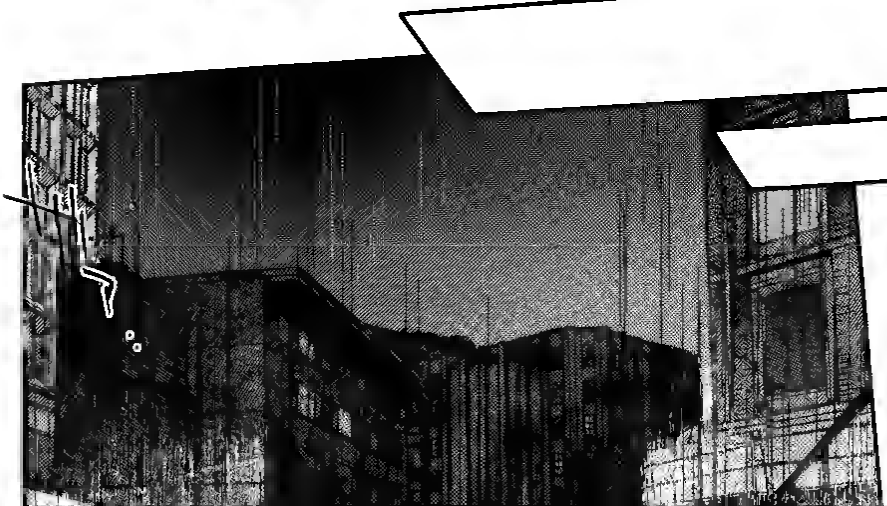
...OCI?
THAT'S RIGHT.
THE FDA IS A U.S. INSTITUTION THAT INVESTIGATES AND CERTIFIES FOODS AND MEDICINES.
AND WITHIN THE FDA, THERE IS AN ORGANIZATION TO INVESTIGATE CRIMINAL ACTS,
Office (オフィス) of Criminal (犯罪) Investigation (捜査)
And that is the OCI.
Huh
FOR EXAMPLE, IF THEY DISCOVERED A KNOCK-OFF MEDICATION ON THE MARKET, THEY WOULD CRACK DOWN ON THE ILLEGAL DISTRIBUTION.
MMM, SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS,
?
THEY'RE LIKE POLICE THAT SPECIALIZE IN FOOD AND DRUGS?
YOU GOT IT.
THEY HAVE THEIR OWN AGENTS.
EH? THEN, THE LAPD ARE DONE WITH THIS CASE?!

OH?
FEELING LONELY, YOUNG LADY?
NO, IT'S JUST THAT YOU STILL HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING.
NO, NOT AT ALL!
WE'RE SEARCHING FOR THE CRIMINAL!
Eh...
ARE YOU REALLY?
IT WAS STILL THEFT AND ASSAULT! SO FOR THE MOMENT, YES!
.....
Young lady, you'd make a fine police officer...
Hell, no!
... TO BE AN OFFICER...
... I WASN'T ABLE TO SPOT ANYONE.
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO HELP RIO-SAN...
OH, THAT'S RIGHT YOU KNOW.
A NOBEL PRIZE WAS WON FOR
EH!

EH, REALLY?!
I DIDN'T KNOW. THEY DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT ON TV.
IT'S TRUE!
THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT IT ALL OVER THE POLICE STATION.
EE-EE-EH...
EH-UH-HUH-WHAT IS THIS?
IT'S A THING WHERE THEY RECOGNIZE WONDERFUL INVENTIONS AND RESEARCH!
IPS WON?
!
THE RESEARCHERS WHO SUCCESSFULLY SOLVED IT DID.
BUT WITH THIS, PEOPLE FROM ALL AROUND THE WORLD WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IPS
WOW..!

?
EVERYONE HAS HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR IPS.
AND THAT'S ALSO THE REASON THE STOCK PRICES OF IPS AND BIO-RELATED INDUSTRIES HAVE SOARED.
I BET RIO ALREADY KNEW, TOO.
SFX KYAA! KYAA!


EIGHTH IS LIKE THAT, TOO.

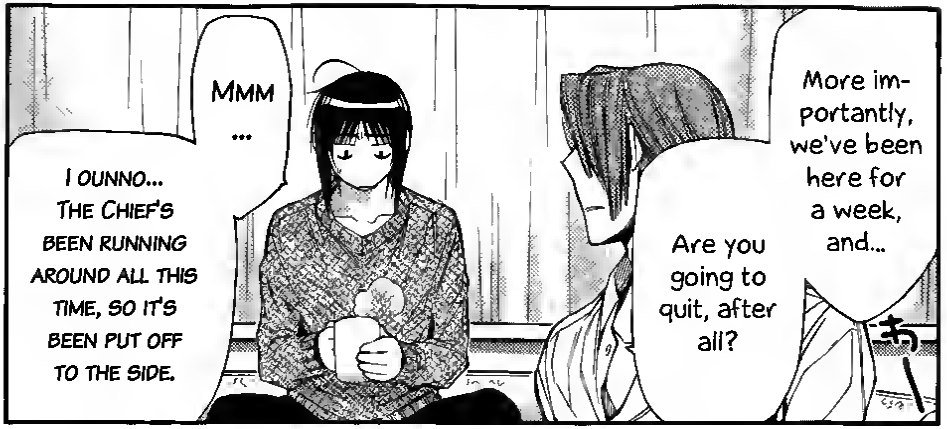


...who won the award in physiology and medical science for iPS...
FDA
CBER's Mr. Thompson
News Bulletin
.....
.....
...studied abroad for 6 years...
was found dead on New Hampshire Avenue in Maryland.

Details of the cause of death are unknown, but...
Mr. Thompson did have heart trouble...
……
ヘヘ
SFX: BZZT
SFX: WAHAHAHA
SFX: CLICK CLICK CLICK
カチ
カチ
カチ
わはは
YEAH...

Nobel prize?
IT ISN'T ANYWHERE ON TV.
YEAH.
If you want details, why not look it up on the 'net?
GUESS WE MISSED IT WHEN IT HAPPENED...
Rain is pouring along the east coast.
Huh?
Well, this is Celcia's favorite.
CUT IT INTO 4 EQUAL PIECES!
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M...
HEY, LUCA!
Cheese cake
JUST HOW BADLY DO YOU WANT TO FEED HER?!
Hm?
YOU DID SAY YOU WERE GOING TO PURSUE THE CRIMINAL, RIGHT?
HEY, LUCA, AND NAOYA, IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO BE HERE ALL THIS TIME?
GEEZ...

... THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
WE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE IS, SO WE CAN'T GO OUT AFTER HER.
WE'RE ON STAND-BY.
SORRY.
... OH, NO.
AH, I'M NOT SAYING THAT YOU SHOULDN'T...
NOW, NOW.
SFX: UWAWAWA
うわわわ
IF YOU CAN'T GO OUT, IT'S FINE TO STAY IN, RIGHT?
HIKARU-SAN WAS SAYING HOW NICE IT WOULD BE TO HAVE EVERYONE TOGETHER...
WHOA! HOLD ON A MINUTE, CELCIA!
EH... EH?


Mmm...
I ounno... The Chief's been running around all this time, so it's been put off to the side.
More importantly, we've been here for a week, and...
Are you going to quit, after all?
あー

... I see.

Being on stand-by...
just stand-ing and waiting.
Let it go.
!
.....

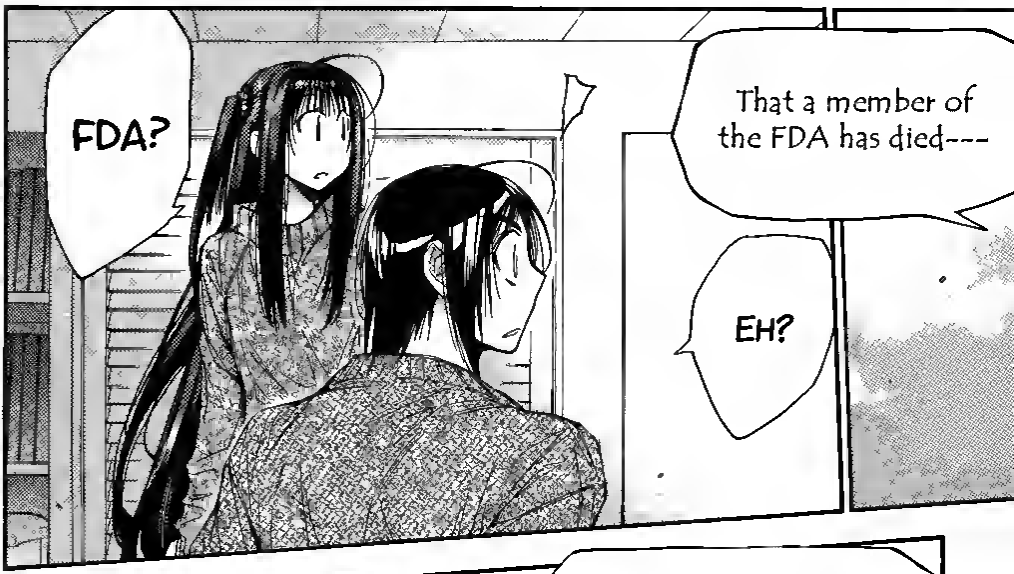
I GET IT.
... Really?
You have this "I'd rather stay put" look.
... HEY, LUCA.
HOW DO YOU THINK RIO'S RESEARCH MIGHT BE MISUSED?
What?
GUARDS LIKE US ARE BASICALLY THERE TO PROTECT...
ONCE SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED, WE'RE PLAYING CATCH-UP.

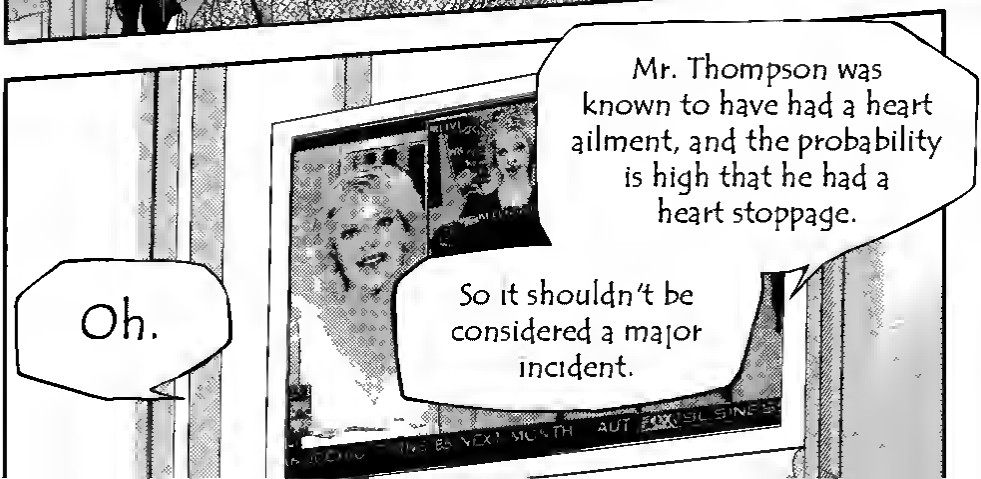
Is there something we can-
None.
.....
The moment you can't protect, you've lost.
At the very least, you and I right now are in the role of rear guard.
But if we speculate,
... I mean, they are after some-thing.
They were originally after Celcia,
But Celcia's fighting back may have been beyond their expecta-tions.
Eh. So then, they changed their goal to Rio-san's research...?
No.
That'd be a case of "what do we do with it, now that we have it?"
They can't plagiarize it...

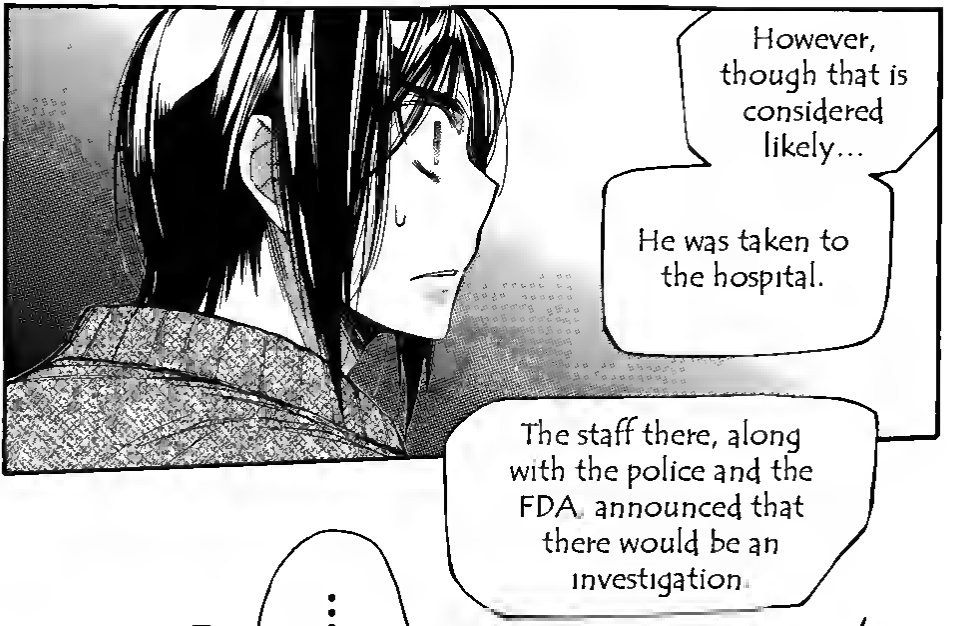
SO IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH EIGHTH?
EH?
BECAUSE SHE SAID "WHEN NEXT WE MEET, I HOPE THERE'S AN EIGHTH."
... Ah, in that case,
If it's to lower Eighth's reputation, then yes, they could do that.
For example, if they use the research to create Eighth products,
And spectacularly fail...

FAIL?
.....
USE RIO'S RESEARCH,
AND INTENTIONALLY FAIL?
HOLD IT.
THAT WON'T WORK.
IPS IS FOR NEITHER ORAL NOR TOPICAL MEDICINES.
YOU CAN'T USE IT SO EASILY ON OTHER PEOPLE.
We're also talking about direct reprogramming
.....

It's been reported...
IF THEY USE IT THE OTHER WAY, IT'LL BE JUST LIKE LUCA SAID...
NO... WHAT THIS MEANS IS,
.....


FDA?
That a member of the FDA has died---
EH?


Mr. Thompson was known to have had a heart ailment, and the probability is high that he had a heart stoppage.
So it shouldn't be considered a major incident.
Oh.


However, though that is considered likely...
He was taken to the hospital.
The staff there, along with the police and the FDA, announced that there would be an investigation.
.....
HIS HEART...?
WHAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IS SOMETHING HAPPENING?

!!
RING RING RING
UH,
ER, YES, HELLO?
click
scared me...
OH, MARI-SAN...
Naoya-kun, get to the Chief's office,
Right away.
Bring Luca with you.

--- DON'T TELL ME... IT CAN'T BE...

He went to the FDA.
... AGAIN?
That's not it.
This time they called him and said, "Come to us".
ER... WHY...?
One of the FDA employees died.
... Ah, right.
Saw it on the news earlier.
The cause of death is a heart ailment.
That is vague.
If the heart stopped, that would be a heart seizure.
That's right.
The news didn't say it, but
His heart had been altered.

There were many abnormalities in the cells of his heart.
WHA...
.....
HUH ...?!
Surely you don't mean it's Rio's research?
The FDA and OCI investigated it, and it wasn't something created by Eighth.
HUH?
How do they know that?

You can tell, if you trace it.
In the bio industry, it's easy to tell a manufacturer's "peculiarities".
Like the chemical culture medium used to create the genes...
It's all there.
BUT THAT'S...
... NO.
HOLD ON A MINUTE.

In that case, wouldn't there be pretty much no chance of Eighth being accused?
FDA
How stupid are you?!!!
How ...

CALM DOWN, PLEASE.
You guys do the calming down!
We were the ones who were stolen from. Quite some time ago, in fact.
So now you wanna say it was all made up?!
I get it. You're gonna say that since we could have created it, we must have created it!
DR. SHINYA.
Why, if something like that was made, does it have to be Eighth?
If you'd conduct a scientific investigation, you'd realize that
In creating bio-products, the manufacturing processes are unique, and would leave "fingerprints".
If you did that, you could even specify the researcher that create it.
FDA-DCI

And even though you know all that, you're doing this?!
DOCTOR,
As soon as the first person dies, you rush to throw us in jail.
DOCTOR,
Quit beating around the bush!
Isn't it natural to think that someone outside Eighth did it?
Just to set us up!
...DR. SHINYA, PLEASE CALM DOWN
...HEY, THAT EMPLOYEE WHO DIED, WHO WAS IT?
MR. THOMPSON, FROM CBER.
Dunno him. He's not the case officer who works with Eighth.
THAT'S RIGHT. THOMPSON WAS WORKING A CASE AT A DIFFERENT COMPANY.
FDA-OCI

... OH, AND YOU STILL SUSPECT EIGHTH?
SO, WHICH COMPANY WAS IT?
WHAT INTERESTS DO THEY HAVE WITH EIGHTH?
HOW DOES EIGHTH PROFIT FROM HIM DYING?
THAT'S A DISCUSSION FOR AFTER THE INVESTI-GATION.
oh, gimme a break! I'll sue!
FDA-OCI FEDERAL AGENT
CAMERA FOOTAGE OF THE PERPETRATOR HAS BEEN SENT TO US, VIA THE LAPD, FROM AN EIGHTH GUARD.
WHAT?!
SHE WAS CAUGHT ON AN EIGHTH SECURITY CAMERA,
SPEAKING QUITE AMICA-BLY WITH A GUARD.
THUS, SHE MUST THEN BE AN EIGHTH EMPLOYEE, RIGHT?
FDA-O

IF THAT'S THE CASE, BRING HER HERE...!!
URK
.....
WHEN IT COMES TO THE REPRO-DUCTION OF BIO-PRODUCTS,
IT'S POINTLESS UNLESS YOU FIT TOGETHER ALL THE WHAT, WHO, AND HOW.
Yeah, and that's exactly why they infil-trated Eighth! Her!
So it's likely she learned how to create it.
...UNDER-STOOD.
OUR ROLE IS TO FIND HER.

IT'S A SIMPLE ON-SITE INSPECTION. YOU'RE A VICTIM, AREN'T YOU?
HOWEVER, WE WOULD HAVE YOU ALLOW US TO SEARCH EIGHTH RESEARCH, AS WELL.
Huh?!
IF YOU ARE NOT A CRIMINAL, THEN YOU SHOULD NOT WANT TO OPPOSE THE OCI IN THIS.
HEY.
SIR?
DON'T LET THIS GET OUT.

No!
If you report this, it will affect all of iPS-based medical re-generative research.
... YOU WANT US TO KEEP EIGHTH'S NAME OUT OF IT?
.....
IT'S FINALLY GAINING ATTEN-TION.
THE WORLD KNOWS OF IT,
AND HAS HIGH HOPES FOR IT. THE WORLD IS EVEN CON-CENTRATING CAPITAL FOR IT.
This is a medical technique that should have a place in medical practice.
Just let out the slightest bit of this incident, and you'll see...
People who know nothing about it will start attacking the research itself!

...
... THAT IS NOT SOMETHING THE FDA WISHES FOR, EITHER.
...BUT A PERSON HAS DIED.
WE CAN'T HIDE THAT.
.....
...
Shit.
What a mess you're making for me...!

It doesn't matter whether Eighth did or didn't do it.
It will hit iPS research hard.
...How awful...
You two, keep it a secret from Rio-sensei.
Insulate her from information, too.
... That would be best.
PI RO RO RO RO ♪
Ah, my phone.

Yes, this is Mari.
Are things okay?
Yes.
Yes, under-stood.

SFX JOLT
Naoya -kun,
It's the Chief, for you.
!

...
THIS IS NAOYA.
HEY, NAOYA.
WHAT'S WITH THE VOICE FROM THE GRAVE YOU'VE GOT GOING...?

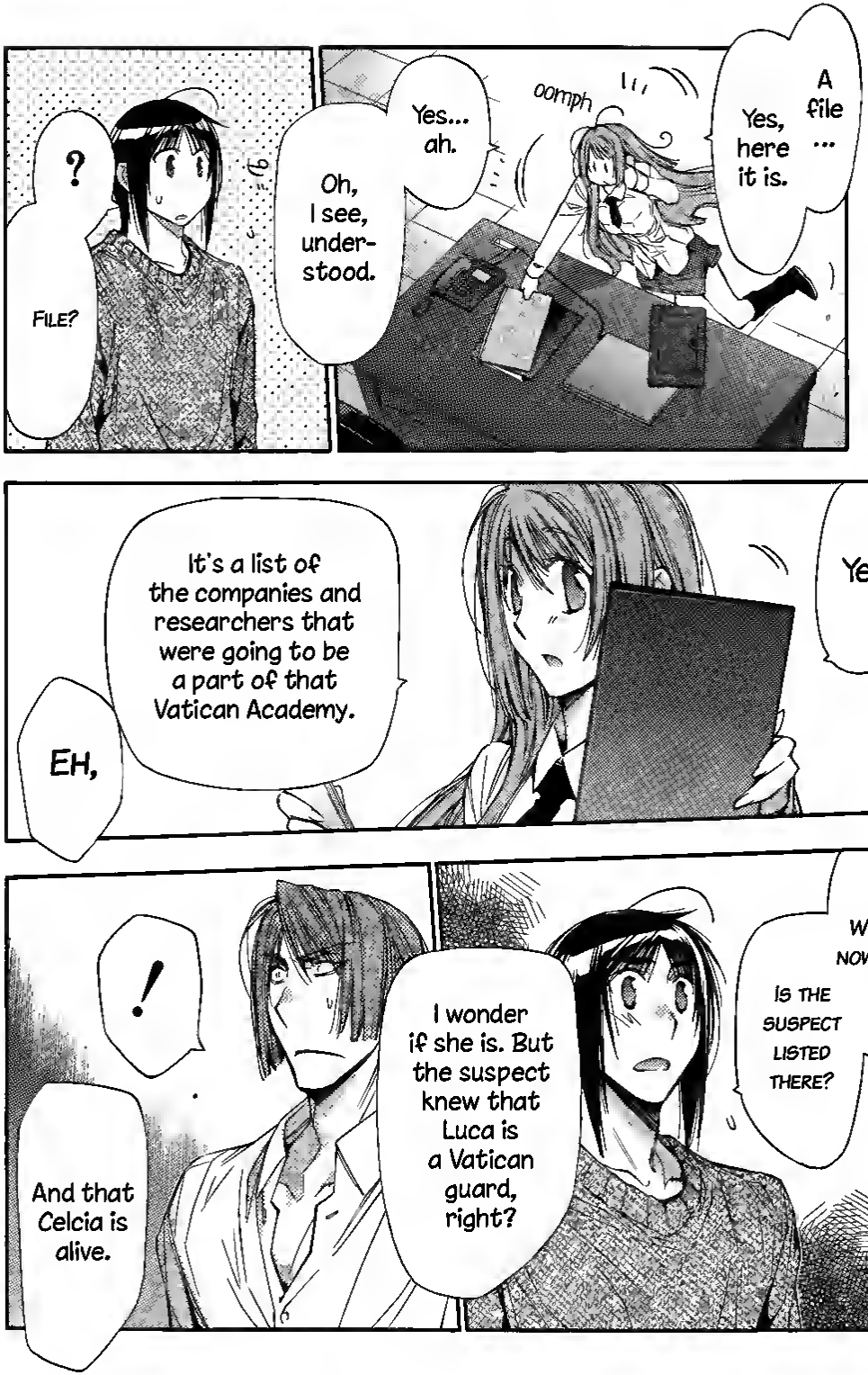
UM...
WHAT DO...
WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING?

.....
YOU'RE UPSET.
OF COURSE I AM!
THAT BITCH HAS BLOWN EVERYTHING TO SHIT!
NAO-YA.
SIR!
AS YOU WERE TOLD EARLIER, YOU ARE OFF DUTY FROM EIGHTH FOR THE TIME BEING.
HOW-EVER,

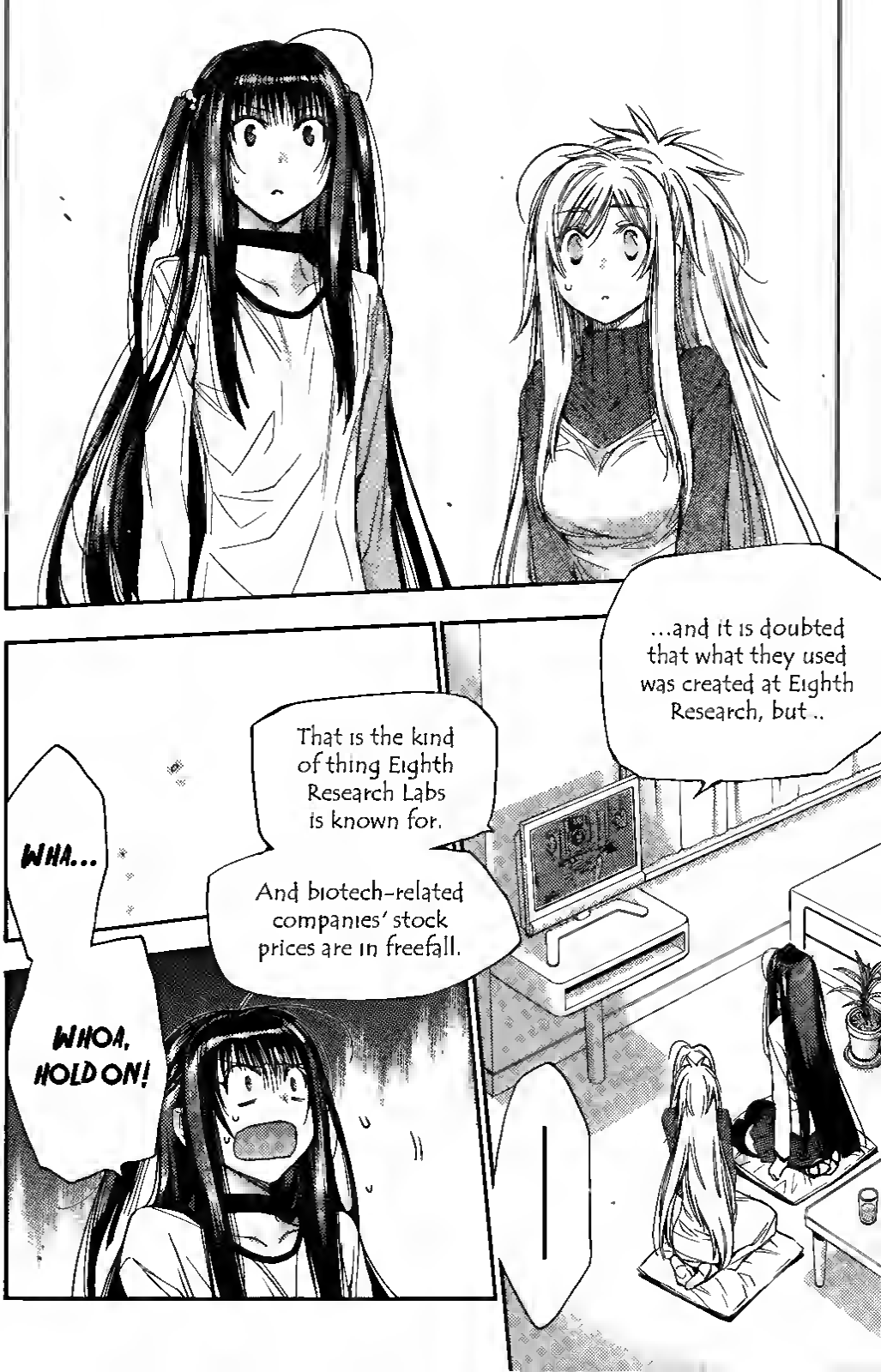
THIS IS AN OUTSIDE ORDER.
YOU WILL TAG ALONG WITH MIRA.
SHE'S QUITE COMPE-TENT.
MAKE SURE TO OBSERVE HER CLOSELY.
YES, SIR.
AND
EIGHTH WILL HAVE DONE NOTHING IN THIS CASE.
WHATEVER WE KNOW, WHATEVER HAPPENS, AND THAT INCLUDES EIGHTH,
DO AS YOU SEE FIT.
YES, SIR.

BUT KEEP IT TO YOURSELF.
USE THE OTHERS IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM, TOO.
USE MIRA, AS WELL.
I'LL BE DOING IT, TOO.
EIGHTH RESEARCH ...
AND ESPECIALLY 4TH LABS, MAY CEASE TO EXIST.
!
IF THAT'S ALL IT IS, WE CAN LIVE WITH THAT, BUT...

IT'LL BE DIFFICULT.
IT MAY DESTROY THE FUTURE OF THE RESEARCH.
...OKAY, PUT MARI BACK ON.
... ER, YES, SIR.
Hello?
Yes.
...eh?
On the desk...?


A file ...
Yes, here it is.
oomph
Yes... ah.
Oh, I see, understood.
?
FILE?
Yes.
It's a list of the companies and researchers that were going to be a part of that Vatican Academy.
EH,
WHY NOW...?
IS THE SUSPECT LISTED THERE?
I wonder if she is. But the suspect knew that Luca is a Vatican guard, right?
!
And that Celcia is alive.

We don't have confirmation, but fortunately, we have something to pursue.
!!!
We may learn something.


...and it is doubted that what they used was created at Eighth Research, but ..
That is the kind of thing Eighth Research Labs is known for.
And biotech-related companies' stock prices are in freefall.
WHA...
WHOA, HOLD ON!

SFX: THAT'S AWFUL...
What about using an as-yet unapproved treatment procedure without authorization?
The FDA issued a statement that "It was misused", and that there should be no problem with the approval process.
WAH! THE FDA ALONE IS DUCKING RESPONSI-BILITY!
NO, WELL... OF COURSE THEY WOULD, BUT STILL.
.....
However, as to the effect on the market for genetic engineering research, specifically with iPS and direct reprogramming...
It has been interpreted as "Its use in the treatment of humans is a failure."

HUH?!
THEY SE-RIOUS?!
There are concerns about the safety and future prospects of the technology,
And the attention it has garnered has invoked strong feelings of disappointment.
THAT IN-TRUDER ...
IS THIS ...
IS THIS WHAT SHE WAS AFTER ...?!